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#ARUBAPROMISE

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Our Front Cover

Local model Missieanna Edwards wears a swimsuit from Coconuts and jewelry from Jewels in Paradise (see more information on page 20). Shot on location along Aruba's coastline in Malmok. Photographed by David Troeger. Hair and makeup by Maria Alejandra.

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Photography by David Troeger
Hair and makeup by Maria Alejandra
Styling by Michelle Wever

Chic on the Beach & Beyond

Beach chic fashions and sunglasses by Coconuts Aruba

Coconuts Aruba is one of the island's leading boutiques for swimwear, resort wear, and chic island lifestyle fashions. Coconuts' branded Biba Dushi (meaning *the sweet life* in the local language of Papiamentu) line offers casual beachwear and accessories that are great souvenirs to take back home. The boutique's RESCUE line supports charitable island causes, like the Aruba Donkey Sanctuary.

Jewelry by Jewels in Paradisë

Founded in 2003, Jewels in Paradisë has earned a stellar reputation for offering original quality jewelry collections with unique, handmade pieces crafted in Italy, with diamonds cut and polished in Antwerp, Belgium. All of the original collections have a lifetime warranty, with a convenient service center in New York.

Jewels in Paradisë also proudly carries John Hardy, Dada Arrigoni, Stefan Hafner, Montblanc, Io Si Scavia, and Etho Maria Haute Joaillerie.



Locations at De Palm Pier, beachside
at Barceló Resort, De Palm Island,
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Aruba's Queen Beatrix International Airport is one of the busiest airports in the Caribbean region, with 29 different airlines contributing in processing over 2.5 million passengers per year. Aruba airport services 30 non-stop destinations of which over 85% of all visitors are leisure guests, 71% from the United States & Canada, 16% from Latin America, 7% from Europe, and 6% from Dutch Caribbean.

Remarkably, the United States air seat capacity has seen sizeable growth since 2008 and is forecasted to surpass the 1 million seat capacity mark for the first time in history by the end of 2018. This substantial increase was driven by the demand in primary markets such as Miami, New York, and Curacao.

Our aim is to always look to improve our offering to our valued airline partners and passengers. To keep up with the remarkable capacity growth, we continue to invest in the future by embarking on an extensive expansion project, named Gateway 2030. The expansion project will facilitate the air traffic & passenger growth while also improving the passenger experience with the right blend between technology and customer service.

MARKET SHARE 2018 (Revenue Generating Passengers)



TOP 5 AIRLINES 2018 (Revenue Generating Passengers)



NUMBER OF AIRLINES SERVING ARUBA



TOP 5 MARKETS 2018 (Capacity Share 2018)



SCHEDULED CAPACITY FROM US MARKET 2008-2019





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ARUBA

IS FOR FAMILIES

Not all Caribbean destinations are ideal for families, but Aruba certainly knows how to please every member of your bunch with a wide variety of fun, family-approved activities. Visiting interactive animal sanctuaries, engaging in underwater adventures, exploring natural attractions, and much more will bring your family together in a fun and meaningful way—and keep the kids off their phones!

We rounded up a few of our favorite family-friendly activities that Aruba has to offer. For more great ideas, we invite you to visit [When in Aruba's](http://www.wheninaruba.com) (www.wheninaruba.com) Family Vacations page.

★ De Palm Island

De Palm Island is Aruba's premier all-inclusive attraction, offering endless activities and all you can eat and drink—the perfect combination for the whole family! Everyone can play and splash for hours at the thrilling waterpark, recently completely renovated with all-new slides and water activities, as well as enjoy unlimited banana boat rides! Fun upgrades for kids include temporary tattoos and hair braiding. The whole family will enjoy the chance to see De Palm Island's beautiful parrotfish up close and personal while snorkeling the reef. Ziplining, air-jumping, beach volleyball, and salsa lessons? Yep, add all those to the list as well! For a truly unique underwater experience, check out De Palm Island's signature Seatrek Underwater Helmet Walk or SNUBA (both upgrades).

When everyone needs a break from all the thrills, plenty of lounge areas, including beach and private cabanas (both upgrades), provide shaded relaxation, and Mom and Dad might even opt for a soothing massage (upgrade). When hunger or thirst strikes, there are a variety of tasty all-inclusive options to choose from. Sit down for a family meal or simply “grab and go” from one of the snack shacks to recharge before heading out for some more fun!

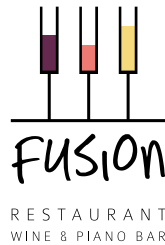




CONTACT INFORMATION:

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★ Aruba Ostrich Farm

Aruba's desert landscape and arid climate provide the ideal conditions for the flock of ostriches and emus residing at the Aruba Ostrich Farm. Tours allow guests to interact with these two very unique bird species while learning about their natural behaviors and survival instincts from enthusiastic guides. Kids will get the biggest kick out of hand-feeding the ostriches, which are far from shy! The tour concludes with a visit to the incubator, hatchery, and the special pens for young ostriches and emus.

The farm's huge open-air lodge is dedicated to the ostrich's native African homeland, housing an art boutique that carries authentic goods from Zimbabwe, as well as handicrafts made in Aruba. When everybody gets hungry, relax at the Savanna Lodge Bar & Restaurant, which serves a locally inspired lunch menu. And while the kids enjoy some shaved ice, parents can partake in the happy hour specials.



CONTACT INFORMATION:

Address: Matividiri 57, Paradera, Aruba

Phone: +297-585-9630

Email: info@arubaostrichfarm.com

Website: www.arubaostrichfarm.com

Facebook: Aruba Ostrich Farm



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★ Aruba Butterfly Farm

Located in Palm Beach, the Aruba Butterfly Farm invites the whole family to step within its mesh enclosure to observe hundreds of butterflies representing many different species from around the globe as they flit and flutter among the flowering plants. Dedicated tour guides provide engaging, kid-friendly explanations of butterfly habits and the stages of metamorphosis, with each stage clearly on display within the farm. Indeed, a visit to the farm is a great way to “sneak” an educational experience into your family vacation.

Kids will enjoy exploring all the nooks and crannies within the farm, searching for the most beautiful butterfly, while Mom and Dad will enjoy the little ponds and trickling fountains that enhance the sense of tranquility within this tropical butterfly haven. Wear bright colors to coax the butterflies into landing on you—it’s good luck!—and make sure to bring your camera. On your way out, pick out a lovely butterfly-inspired souvenir from the gift shop.





CONTACT INFORMATION:

Address: J. Irausquin Boulevard,
Palm Beach, Aruba
Phone: +297-586-3656
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Website: www.thebutterflyfarm.com
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An unlimited open bar serves cold beer, cocktails, juices, and sodas, and snacks are also served.





CONTACT INFORMATION:

Address: Pelican Pier

Phone: +297-587-2307

Email: info@pelican-aruba.com

Website: pelican-aruba.com



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Located 70 miles from Aruba, Curaçao, located in the Dutch Caribbean, is the ideal destination to explore culture, history and art. The airport has multiple direct flights from Aruba, the United States of America and Canada. Take advantage of the 15-minute flight between Aruba and Curaçao and explore the completely remodeled and refreshed Curaçao Marriott Beach Resort. The resort boasts 336 freshly redesigned guest rooms and suites, each well-appointed and equipped with a mini-fridge, Nespresso machine, individual climate control, and a private balcony.

Guests can indulge in world-class cuisine at one of the 6 restaurants and bar ranging from grab-and-go, casual options to fine dining, featuring a fusion of Caribbean and European flair. Two sparkling pools, a Spa, state-of-the-art fitness center and non-motorized watersports equipment are a few of the amenities guests are able to enjoy. Looking forward to welcoming you to this unique resort and providing you with an all-new resort experience.



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Rancho Loco

Rancho Loco is an equestrian center nestled in an idyllic countryside setting in the heart of Santa Cruz, offering riding lessons, horseback riding tours, and boarding and training services for horses. Your whole family will enjoy the “feel” of this ranch, which embodies a free-spirited nature, with the horses roaming the ranch in small herds as they would in the wild, side by side with rescued dogs, a couple of cats, chickens, and even a few turtles, all enjoying life on the ranch together. The ranch is dedicated to breeding its own horses, with three foals born at the ranch within the last year. The ranch caretakers also grow fruits and vegetables on the ranch, making Rancho Loco one of the “greenest” horse ranches in Aruba.

Rancho Loco capitalizes on its proximity to Aruba’s famed Natural Pool, offering horseback riding tours to this unique destination within Arikok National Park. Tours also take riders to explore Moro Beach, tucked along the island’s north coast near the Natural Pool. Rancho Loco’s tours are decidedly family-friendly, accommodating all ages and all levels of experience. (Children must be six years or older to ride their own horse.) What better than a mix of adventure, exploration, and spending time with gentle animals to serve as the ideal bonding experience for your family?



CONTACT INFORMATION:

Address: Sombre #22E, Santa Cruz, Aruba

Phone: +297-592-6039

Email: rancholocoaruba.ak@gmail.com

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Easy to operate with intuitive controlling and suitable for ages ten and older, Seabob scooters take riders to the gorgeous reefs along Malmok, Boca Catalina, Arashi, and even to the *Antilla* shipwreck. The tour is definitely a monumental memory-maker and an ideal activity for families to experience together.





CONTACT INFORMATION:

Email: seabobaruba@gmail.com

Phone: +297-747-3023

Website: seabobaruba.com

Instagram: [seabobaruba_official](https://www.instagram.com/seabobaruba_official)

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Mixology



Magic

at the 5th Annual Bartenders' Brawl



The 5th annual Bartenders' Brawl was held on October 25 in conjunction with the Aruba Tourism Authority's Eat Local Restaurant Month. The event, originally created by *Island Temptations*, was hosted and produced by the Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino and held at Festival Plaza at the Renaissance Marketplace. The chic event showcased seven of Aruba's top bartenders impressing a sold-out crowd with their original craft cocktail creations.

Aruba's local spirit distributors were the essential collaborators to make this event happen, supplying all the liquor and necessary ingredients to produce these exciting libations for attendees of the event to enjoy. Renaissance's culinary team fueled guests with savory noshes like roast beef sliders, mini vegetarian tacos, BBQ glazed beef ribs, and a tempting dessert trolley, while local deejay extraordinaire Jason Party Dude provided an upbeat, retro audial backdrop to the festivities.

This year, the People's Choice cocktail was selected by a panel of Instagram influencers, including Nathalie Migliarini and Kimberly King from the US, with Enrique Balestrini from Aruba. A panel of professional judges selected the Judges' Choice, including Urvin Croes, chef proprietor of White Modern Cuisine; Ferry Zievinger, general manager for Divi Resorts; and Orlin Geerman, director of EPB's culinary program. All bartenders were challenged to include one locally grown/made ingredient in their creations.

Receiving the most points and earning the People's Choice award was Elephant in the Room, an Opihir Gin-based cocktail by bartender Carlos Perez of Azia Restaurant, representing Pepia Est. Local cocktail ingredients included aloe juice and a homemade cardamom syrup.

The Instagram influencers named Jamaican Spritz as the second-place winner. This Appleton Estate Rum-based, force-carbonated cocktail was by bartender Nathan Schwengle of Apotheek, representing Aruba Trading Company. Among interesting ingredients were a local remedy—stroof di calbas—and lime.






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The third-place winner was Bumxotic, a Bumbu Rum-based cocktail by bartender Emilia Lopez Henriquez of The Ritz-Carlton's Casa Nonna restaurant, representing Divino NV. Local cocktail ingredients included the fiery Madame Jeanette pica di papaya, lime, basil, mango, and passion fruit puree.

Earning the Judges' Choice was Jamaican Spritz by Nathan Schwengle. All judges complimented the level of difficulty overcome by balancing the bitter taste of the calbas gourd. In second place was Tropical Guava & Berry, a spicy Ron Tropical-based cocktail by bartender Merly Cardenas of Renaissance Blue Bar, representing Aruba Trading Company. Among local ingredients was a rare Caribbean medicinal berry, made into a syrup and spiced with cloves. In third place was Elephant in the Room by Carlos Perez.



HONORABLE MENTION:

Magnolia, a Don Valente Handcrafted Tequila-based cocktail by bartender Michael Gomez of Apotheek, representing J&G Trading: local ingredients included dried and pressed hibiscus flowers, lime, and moringa flowers.

Ginger, a Bacardi Ginger-based cocktail by bartender Danny Kock of Moomba Beach Bar, representing Tropical Bottling: among local ingredients were the island's popular Coco Rico soda pop, pica di papaya, lime, and rosemary.

Caribbean Heat, a Diplomatico Planas Rum-based cocktail by bartender John Fredwill Vivas from Craft, representing La Cava: local ingredients included passion fruit puree and homemade orange liquor with basil.

Patia La Mia, a Fair Quinoa Vodka-based cocktail by bartender Janice Martinus of Hoya Lush Cafe, representing Manrique Capriles: a local homemade kiwi & habanero syrup was used.

The team at Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino, under the leadership of Food & Beverage Director Diego Lemasson, and *Island Temptations* were proud to provide a venue for Aruba's talented bartenders to showcase their creativeness and further elevate the island's growing craft cocktail scene. Cheers to all the bartenders and distributors that helped make this a dynamic evening!





INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCER JUDGES:

Nathalie Migliarini of Beautiful Booze, invited by ATA & RenAruba.
 Kimberly King, @kimberlyj_king, a culinary & travel fanatic partnered with RenAruba.

LOCAL PROFESSIONAL JUDGES:

Urvin Croes, chef proprietor of White Modern Cuisine; Ferry Zievinger, general manager for Divi Resorts; and Orlin German, director of EPB's culinary program.

THANKS TO MEMBERS OF THE USA MEDIA WHO COVERED THE EVENT FOR EAT LOCAL MONTH:

Keith Langston – www.passportmagazine.com
 Allison Tibaldi – CNN Travel (Freelancer)
 Davina Sutton – www.coffeewithamerica.com
 Jen Smith – DailyMail.com
 Morgan Mandriota – Betches (Freelancer)
 Rebecca Glasser-Baker – www.metro.us
 Zeno Reps: Mila Ortiz and Casey Hamilton

Special thanks to ATA rep Amayra Boekhoudt.





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Experiential Dining on Aruba

Many travelers today seek connections to their destination, looking to weave culturally or locally authentic experiences into their vacations. With food so strongly associated with each culture or destination, it's no surprise that experiential dining is gaining popularity worldwide. Here on Aruba, several unique dining experiences are offered—from sampling farm-to-table fare or dining in the tropical garden of a local chef to being whisked away to dinner on a private island or infusing local heritage and architecture into your culinary pursuits.

EXPERIENTIAL DINING

Aruba Downtown Walking Tours



Aruba's heritage is not relegated to just guidebooks—it is alive and breathing in our landscapes and streetscapes, our cuisine, our art, and our people. In 2016, Aruba Downtown Walking Tours began a dynamic interactive tour with local experts sharing an authentic perspective of historic downtown Oranjestad. The daytime tour has a heavier focus on architecture and history, with stops to taste two local snack favorites. The evening tour is more of a walking food tour highlighting local cuisine as well as international cuisine that has influenced Aruba's culinary-scape, with a few stops at historic monuments and interesting cultural commentary along the way.

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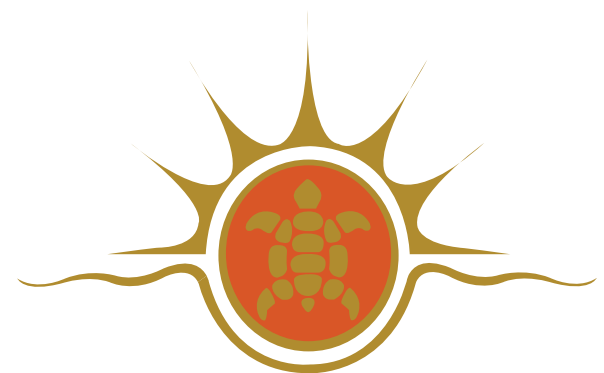


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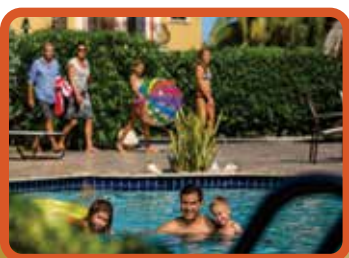
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EXPERIENTIAL DINING

The Secret Garden

Images by Zane Schilders



For some tasty immersion into a thoroughly authentic home-dining experience, check out The Secret Garden. Relish the tropical garden of a replica of a traditional Aruban cunucu home, where chef and homeowner Tina Causey-Bislick collaborates with Venezuelan-Italian chef Tony D'Andrea and maître d' Tracey Schilders to bring guests multi-course dining experiences in a community-table setting. Signature experiences include The Cunucu Table, highlighting local cuisine with a gourmet flair, and The Vegan Table, a true comfort food menu that's completely vegan—even the prosecco! Seating at the community table is limited to 24 guests, and experiences are offered just a few nights a week. Visit thesecretgardenaruba.com for more information on available dining events and to book your seat for this one-of-a-kind local culinary experience.





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EXPERIENTIAL DINING

Destination Dining on a Private Island



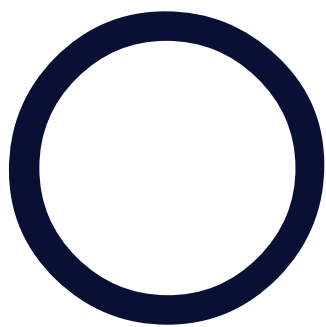
For many of us, an island vacation must-do is the quintessential toes-in-the-sand dining experience (tiki torches included!). There are several venues along Aruba's coastline that offer their own variation on barefoot seashore dining, but journeying by boat to a private island for a dining experience feels so exclusive, so unique, and worlds away from life back home.

Every Wednesday evening, Renaissance offers a private island dining experience that anyone can enjoy, even if not a guest of the resort. The idyllic evening begins dockside at the downtown marina, where you are greeted with a welcome cocktail before boarding the shuttle boat that will whisk you away to the island. Once on the island, slip off those shoes and settle in for a culinary adventure of four courses catered to your seaside table as dusk settles and the stars start to twinkle.

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EXPERIENTIAL DINING

Island Fest



The town of San Nicolas, located on the southern end of the island, hosts the monthly Island Fest. Old-school Caribbean charm paints this town—the birthplace of Aruba’s famed Carnival—with vibrant authenticity, particularly during the Carnival season (January through March), and now guests can experience the excitement all year round. Island Fest features live music, colorful costumes of past Carnivals, performances featuring traditional Aruban dance, and pop-up gastronomy featuring local and Caribbean cuisine. The event is free (bring cash for food, drinks, and local crafts) and suitable for families, friends, and couples.



EXPERIENTIAL DINING

Wine on Down the Road



There's no better way to sample Aruba's culinary scene than this foodie tour on the famous Kukoo Kunuku bus. The Wine on Down the Road tour consists of a carefully curated itinerary combining taste plates from four of Aruba's top culinary hot spots with carefully chosen wines selected by your onboard sommelier.

To book this tour or any of the other Kukoo Kunuku adventures, visit the website at www.kukookunuku.com. Follow them on Facebook at @Kukookunuku and on Instagram at @kukookunukuaruba.



EXPERIENTIAL DINING

Back to the Land with Goshen

Goshen believes in changing our relationship with the very thing that physically sustains us—the land. Next to producing organic, endemic Aruban vegetables like concomber chikito (local cucumber), Aruban beans, okra, and peppers, Goshen offers an unforgettable farm-to-table cooking experience: Back to the Land. This Back to the Land experience starts late in the afternoon, educating guests about Aruba's local flora and fauna, as well as the island's agricultural history.

Guests get to prepare their own delicious local dishes in a traditional stone-brick oven using Goshen's farm-grown vegetables and are seated in the outdoor palapa of an almost 100-year-old cunucu house while enjoying a spectacular sunset. Smoothie with a Purpose, an informative 30-minute tour introducing guests to the Goshen Smoothie, is another way to nourish the soul at Goshen. It is the most delicious and refreshing smoothie, prepared with Aruba's concomber chikito.

A Goshen experience cannot be complete without booking a relaxing stay. Goshen welcomes those looking to retreat, reconnect to nature, and enjoy Aruban hospitality while basking in the atmosphere of its traditional home. You will undoubtedly find it worthy of a repeat visit.

To book any or all of the Goshen experiences, visit their website at goshenaruba.com, or call them directly at +297-562-1223.

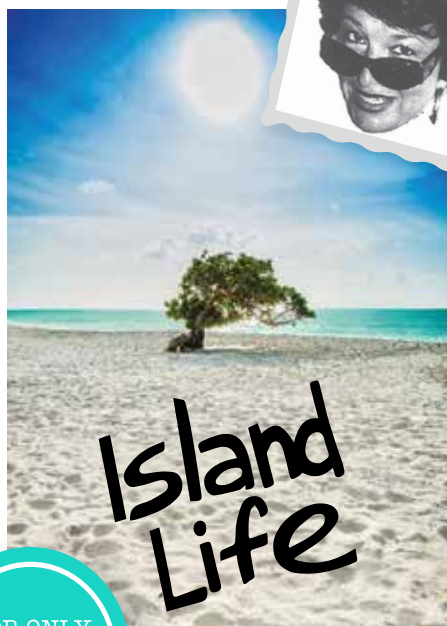


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Chillin' @ Rum Reef

In late 2018, a new bar and lounge experience was launched at Baby Beach. Rum Reef, formerly located on the ground level at JADS Dive Center, moved to a neighboring upstairs location, offering stunning elevated views of the Baby Beach area. There is some interesting history behind the location, which was once part of the Esso Club, a former community center for expats working at Lago Oil & Transport Company, its original construction dating back to the 1920s. Much of it burned in a fire in 1939, but it was rebuilt in the 1950s, and then abandoned in the 1980s. Businesses like JADS and Rum Reef have been slowly bringing the beachfront building back to life.

Many divers and regulars at Baby Beach have refueled and refreshed at Rum Reef for several years now and will be happy to know that Dennis Fang and his son, JP, have maintained the local, laid-back vibe in the new location, and yes, sassy bartender Maureen is still there mixing her cocktails from scratch (no packaged mixes)—like her famous piña colada made with real coconut cream. And now you can take that tropical libation out onto the terrace or sip it in the infinity pool, as patrons of Rum Reef can enjoy complimentary use of the terrace and pool. And no worries about kids jumping and splashing and cutting into your zen chill session—Rum Reef is for adults only! Currently, Rum Reef offers beers and cocktails only; however, a kitchen is under construction—stay tuned!

Rum Reef is open daily from 11 am to 5 pm. For more information, call +297-584-6070. Follow all the happenings at Rum Reef on Facebook at @rumreefaruba.





don't forget
to try

The Blue Wave is a traditional margarita with the addition of Blue Curaçao liqueur.



The Blue Wave

Cherry Daiquiri



Strawberry &
Banana Daiquiri

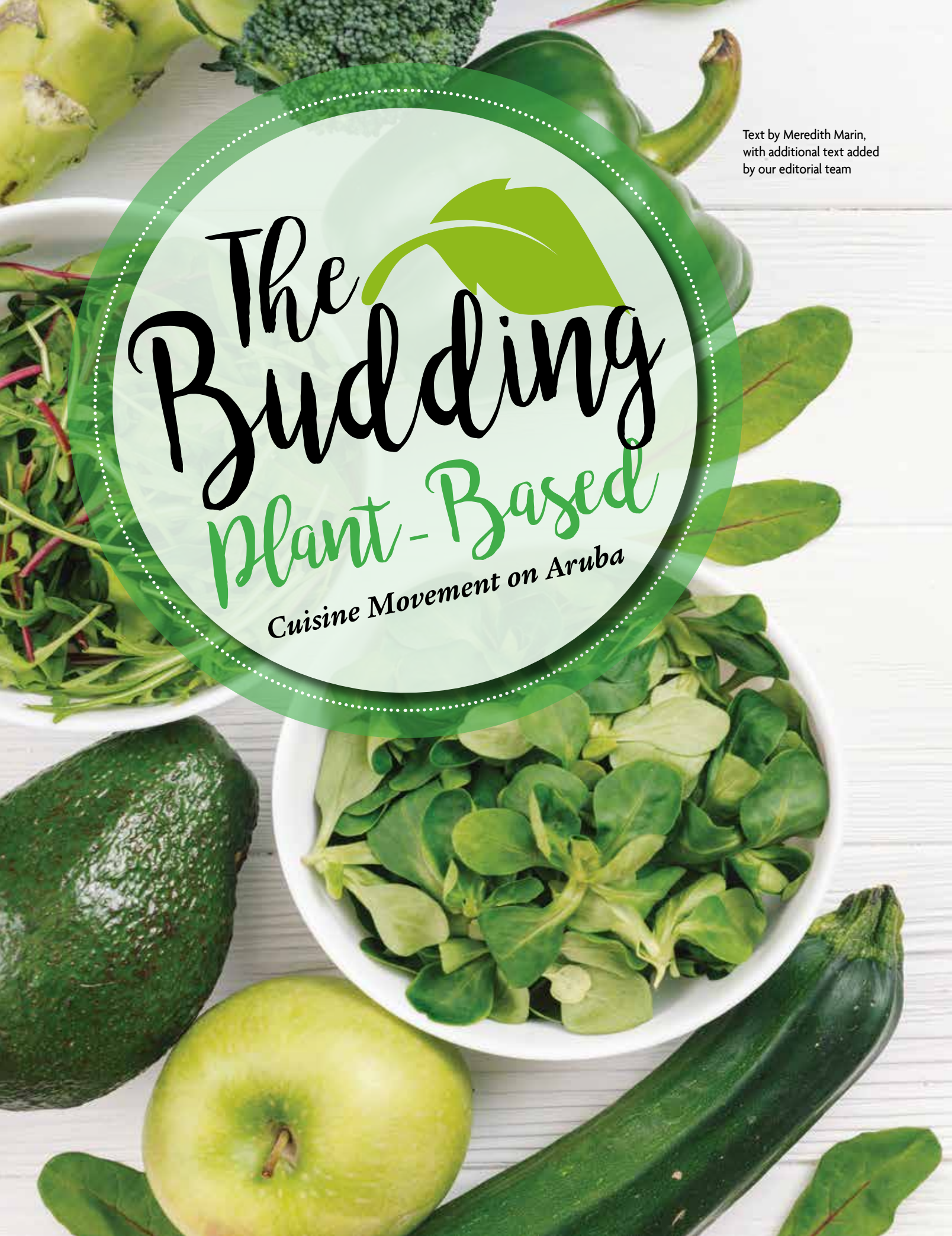


Caipirinha

The Caipirinha is made with Brazilian cachaça (sugarcane hard liquor), and Maureen adds a splash of Coecoei—an agave liquor from Aruba—for extra flavor, potency, and the authentic Aruban touch!



Text by Meredith Marin,
with additional text added
by our editorial team



The Budding Plant-Based

Cuisine Movement on Aruba



Elements Restaurant

at Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Elements Restaurant at Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort is proud to have the most extensive vegan menu on the island, and was the first restaurant to have menu space dedicated to vegan dishes. There are daily vegan options on their breakfast buffet, a full vegan lunch menu, and numerous vegan dinner options. Their bar even serves a “Healthy Hour” for hotel guests, a green take on “happy hour” where smoothies are half off. With creative dishes like Cashew Cheese Tacos and Avocado Tartare, there’s something new to try during every meal. A guest favorite, BBQ Chickpea Lettuce Wraps, includes romaine hearts stuffed with fresh cilantro, sweet corn, avocado, tomatoes, red onion, and “cheesy” chickpeas tossed in creamy house-made cilantro lime dressing, finished with a BBQ sauce drizzle. You’ll see local and regional ingredients, such as sweet plantains and Aruban cucumbers, used in many of the dishes. Elements offers a fully labeled vegan drinks menu and a staff that is highly knowledgeable about vegan living. And an added bonus—bread for all guests in the Elements bread basket is vegan!





Fishes & More

at Arawak Garden

Calamari and ceviche, but hold the fish. When you ask for the “More Menu” at Fishes & More, Aruba’s seafood restaurant at Arawak Garden, Palm Beach, you can order from a completely plant-based, gluten-free, sea-inspired menu.

How does the culinary team create seafood from plants? To create ceviche, they start by slicing lychee, a small white tropical fruit; then marinating it in citrus, like traditional fish ceviche; and finishing it off with a touch of local pica di papaya (hot sauce). And don’t forget the original “seafood” that’s totally plant-based: seaweed! Nori is used as a seasoning in many of the vegan dishes at Fishes & More. The popular appetizer Calamari Vegani is a labor of love. Each slice of palmito heart must be sliced through the center with a straw in order to take on a calamari ring shape. The hearts of palm are then seasoned with nori powder and Old Bay, battered in chickpea flour, and deep-fried. The dish is completed with crispy enoki mushroom “tentacles.” The Vegan Seafood Platter, where you’ll find the lychee ceviche, also includes “tuna” made from tamari-marinated watermelon, cajun tofu fillets, portobello “fried shrimp,” and organic brown rice. Vegan dishes are treated with the same attention and creativity as dishes from the traditional menu, making clients feel welcomed and confident that they will have a memorable dining experience. Save room for the vegan dessert specialty—Peanut Butter Brownie à la Mode!



Hadicurari

This beachside seafood and steak restaurant is located in front of the iconic Hadicurari Pier—a popular spot for local fishermen. Recognizing the global vegan movement and an increased desire for plant-based dishes, Hadicurari added a vegan menu offering two appetizers, a soup, two entrées, and a dessert. A deceptively rich vegan mozzarella is the foundation for the restaurant's Caprese, while a sweet and tangy hoisin veganaise adds Asian flavors to the Soy Fish Tempura. To create the Catch of the Day, the chef employs the Soy Fish Tempura, wrapping it in seaweed and topping it with a traditional local creole sauce. The Fried Scallops derive their scallop-like texture from a base of yam and are served with teriyaki vegetables. For dessert, the Chilled Cantaloupe Soup satisfies the sweet tooth with a delightful cinnamon ice cream made from almond milk.





Dragonfly

This hip sushi spot, located at Arawak Garden in Palm Beach, added several plant-based dishes to the menu recently. If you love crispy rolls, the Tofu Roll is calling your name—crispy tofu is joined by fresh avocado and wakame, topped with roasted peppers and pesto sauce. The Veggie Roll is stuffed with avocado, mango, carrots, cucumber, wakame, and lettuce. Both rolls are full of flavor and texture. Two soups on the menu are vegan—the traditional Miso Soup and the spice-infused Mushroom Soup, made with coconut milk. Vegan diners wanting a hot main course will enjoy the Tofu Teriyaki with rice and broccoli. Early birds who want to munch on some late afternoon sushi can enjoy an all-you-care-to-eat special offered daily at 4 pm.





Ike's Bistro

at Manchebo Beach Resort

Manchebo Beach Resort on Eagle Beach is a premier resort in the Aruba wellness community. Two years ago, the resort added a vegan menu to Ike's Bistro. You'll find everything from super-healthy options like their raw Cucumber Carpaccio to the more decadent Truffle Risotto. Popular dishes include the Cauliflower Steak and the Sweet Potato and Portobello served over red quinoa. Salads are prepared with locally grown hydroponic lettuces, and dishes are seasoned with herbs grown in the hotel's herb garden. Service to vegans is complete with a fully labeled wine menu so that diners can easily find their favorite vegan wines. And of course, the desserts! Vegans will not miss out on chocolate indulgence at Ike's Bistro. Diners can indulge in a Vegan Chocolate Snickers Bar layered with coconut for a Caribbean twist on the traditional candy bar. Creamy, locally churned sorbets are also available, and honeymooners will be greeted with vegan chocolate-covered strawberries in their room. Moving toward a more vegan-friendly experience is part of the hotel's sustainability goals. Manchebo Beach Resort is a recipient of the Green Globe Award, indicating that the hotel is committed to sustainability, supporting local agriculture, and providing plant-based options.





Holiday Inn Resort Aruba

This Palm Beach resort recently created new menus for all of its restaurants, and added several vegan options bursting with fresh flavors as well.

Puro Coffee features a unique menu filled with vegan options. The popular “Bowl” options include ingredients like tofu, avocado, nuts, seeds, hummus, black beans, and cacao nibs. The menu also features vegan chicken sandwiches and tofu-filled wraps. Da Vinci Ristorante, the resort’s signature Italian restaurant, offers several vegan specialties, including the Asparagus Risotto in a cucumber roll paired with sweet roasted root vegetables on a bed of quinoa. The casual beachfront Seabreeze Restaurant & Bar includes a Mediterranean-style Vegan Salad, a Vegetable Roti spiced with curry, and Indonesian Gado Gado among its vegan selections.

Visit www.holidayinnaruba.com to browse all menus. Call +297-586-3600 for more information and reservations.





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Island Spa INDULGENCES

For many vacationers, being pampered in a spa is the ultimate way to unwind and let go of the daily stresses back home. Aruba offers the spa-goer a variety of day spas to choose from, each uniquely reflecting the spirit of the island, offering everything from quaint outdoor beach cabanas to state-of-the-art treatment rooms.

Aruba's spas offer world-class spa amenities in an oasis of understated luxury, with therapists and technicians seasoned in the art of relaxation and rejuvenation.





Pure Indulgence

The Ultimate Spa Escape, It's All About You!

An authentic spa experience can be found at Pure Indulgence Spa, located at the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort. The spa offers the ideal balance between state-of-the-art facilities and organic, island-inspired treatments utilizing fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers, and herbs. Tailored experiences like beach massages and bridal and group spa days are also offered.

Thoughtful details include natural stone and marble finishes, wood tiles, handcrafted cedar wood elements, and hydrotherapy features throughout the décor. Luxurious treatment rooms, including two dedicated couples suites, and the spa's loft (dedicated to nail treatments) offer breathtaking views spanning from Eagle Beach to the California Lighthouse. The Pure Lovers Suite features a Microsilk Hydrotherapy Jacuzzi bath, premium Hansgrohe Raindance rain showers, and a couples steam room.

Pure Indulgence offers a new complete menu of all-natural and organic, on-trend treatments for body and skin that smell and sound good enough to eat or drink. How about a Merlot Massage, Chocolate-Covered Strawberry Bliss Body Scrub & Wrap, Cucumber-Avocado Refreshing Facial, or Mint Bliss Bubbletini Manicure and Pedicure? YES, please. The Ultimate Spa Escape is All About YOU...

LOCATION

Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort. Tel: (+297) 586-6066 ext. 7069
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Hours of Operation:
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#1 ON TRIPADVISOR FOR PALM BEACH, ARUBA



Indulgence by the Sea SPA

Indulgence by the Sea Spa, at Divi All Inclusive Beach Resort, celebrates 17+ years on the island. The spa offers an extensive menu of massages, facials, body treatments, manicures, and pedicures. Indulgence prides itself on using organic body care lines, including Eminence Organic Skincare & Farm House Fresh Goods. The menu is so delicious, it will leave you yearning for more.

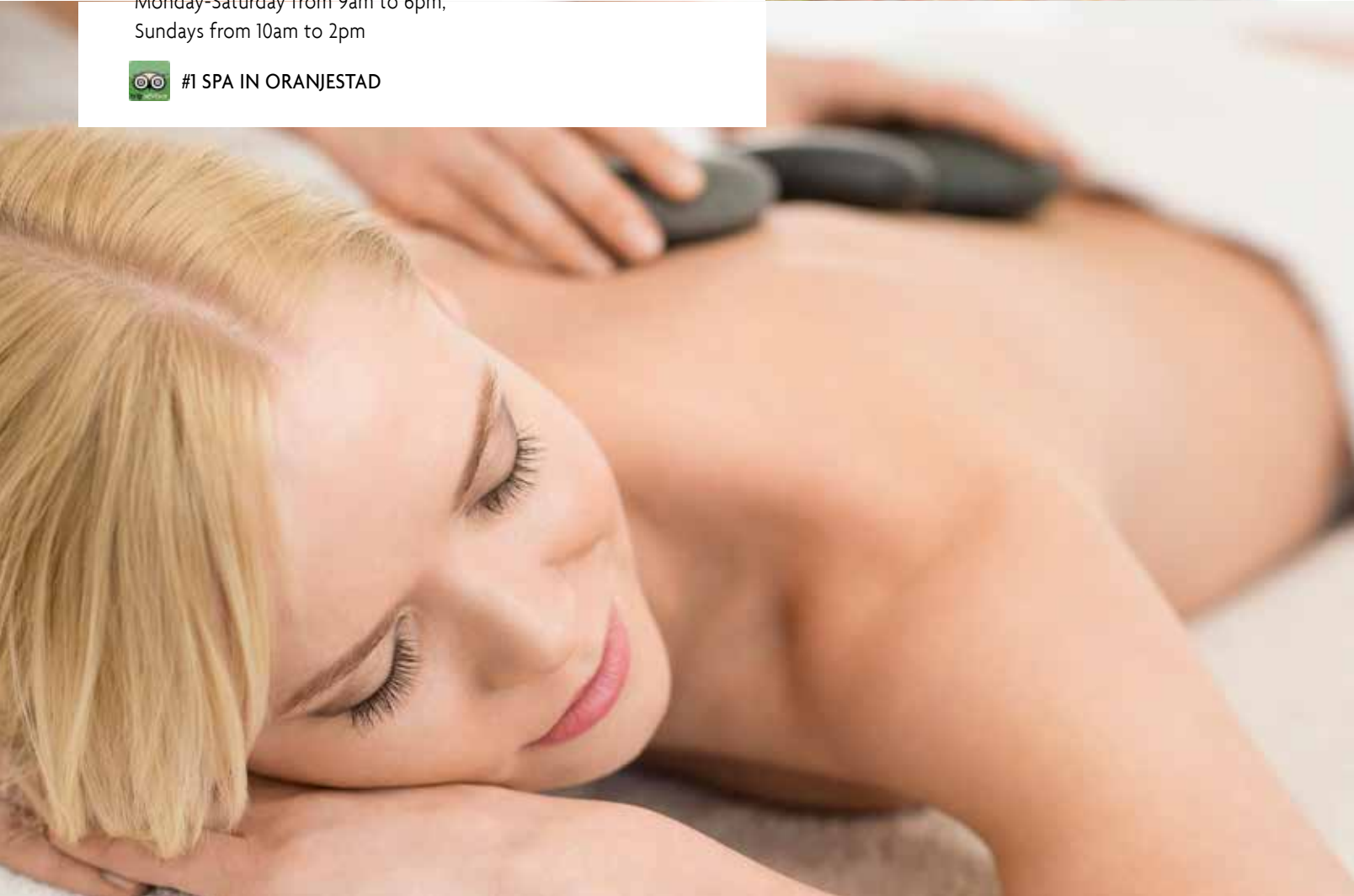
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LOCATION

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Hours of Operation:
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#1 SPA IN ORANJESTAD





Indulgence by the Sea SALON

Indulgence by the Sea Salon located at the Tamarijn All Inclusive Beach Resort, celebrating 10 years on the island has gained the reputation as the island's special occasion and bridal experts. The Bridal Team offers service in the salon or travels to any resort or villa to make your Wedding Day, unforgettable. The full service Wella Professionals' Salon offers hair, makeup, skin, & body treatments. Customized menus include Skipping Down the Aisle Pedis, Gown Glam Exfoliations, Blushing & Bride Facials. This is your time to relax, reflect, revitalize, and rejoice.

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#1 SALON IN ORANJESTAD



#

VOLUNTEERS



Voluntourism— The “Do Good” Vacation

Traveling is the great escape from our everyday lives. Soaking up the sights and sounds of a destination, meeting new people, discovering new cultures—for many of us, this is traveling. Some, however, take their vacations to an entirely new dimension, choosing to enrich their travel experiences by volunteering within the local community. “Voluntourism” is a growing segment of tourism that has a win-win effect for both the traveler and the community.

Here on Aruba, community service abounds, with locals volunteering their time, labor, and skills to a long list of organizations and charities. The island is doubly blessed in that not only do we have a strong sense of community and a “helping hand” mentality, but many of our valued guests also share precious vacation time volunteering for various causes and organizations on the island. For some tourists, Aruba is their vacation destination year after year, and they genuinely feel it’s a home away from home; they are connected emotionally to the island and are eager to give back. For others, volunteering is a unique way to meet locals and have an up-close and personal vacation experience in Aruba. And for some, it’s a great way to spend quality time together while on a family vacation. Whatever it is that calls upon travelers to forgo time lounging by the pool or beach, Arubans welcome the opportunity to share their passion for a cause with new friends.

On the next few pages are a few local charities, organizations, and community initiatives that welcome support.



If you love the sea, marine life, and beaches:

National Coastal Cleanup Day

For two and a half hours, Aruba's beaches and coastline are filled with locals and visitors working together to make a clean sweep. Gloves, collecting bags, and refreshments are provided during the cleanup that reaches as far south as the Baby Beach area, running up the coast to north of the California Lighthouse. The event, sponsored by the Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association, is held annually in early June from 8 am to 10:30 am.

The Aruba Reef Care Project

The island's largest volunteer environmental initiative is the Aruba Reef Care Project. Initiated in 1994, the project has grown to amass some 1,000 participants scouring the beaches and dive and snorkel sites in a cleanup effort to preserve the island's crystal turquoise waters and sugar-white beaches.





The environmental initiative, supported by the public and private sector businesses, including resorts and activity companies, also raises awareness in the community of the importance of preserving Aruba's marine environment. The annual event attracts both locals and tourists, who gladly give up a few hours of their day to remove debris from the beaches and reefs.

The project takes place annually in the month of September. Interested participants can contact Castro Perez by email at castroperez@gmail.com or by phone at +297-740-0797. Facebook: Reef Care Aruba

TurtugAruba

Aruba's shores have become a favorite nesting place for the Leatherback, Hawksbill, Green, and Loggerhead species. Fundashon TurtugAruba, established in 2003 and a member of the Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network, is the local foundation that protects these four endangered species of sea turtles nesting on Aruba. These turtles invariably return to their natal beach to lay their eggs, and TurtugAruba volunteers know exactly where to patrol in order to spot, monitor, and protect turtle nests on the island, primarily at Eagle Beach, Boca Grandi, and Arikok National Park.

Sea turtles begin their nesting season on Aruba in April, and hatching can continue all the way into December. Volunteers comb the beach during the season looking for nesting turtles so the area can be cordoned off and protected. These marked nests are then monitored, especially in the days nearing hatching, to record the number of babies and to safeguard their journey from the beach to the sea. For information on how to assist the organization, email inquiries to info@turtugaruba.org. Check out their Facebook page ([@turtugaruba](https://www.facebook.com/turtugaruba)) for updates on current nesting and hatching activities and the continued efforts of the foundation.



If you love animals and need some furry contact while on vacation:

Aruba Animal Shelter

The mission of the Aruba Animal Shelter is to improve the lives of dogs and cats on Aruba. This mission relies on the donations of contributors and the concerted efforts of a committed group of volunteers, including longtime volunteers, youngsters pitching in during the summer break, and guests visiting the island. But all the volunteers have one thing in common: the devotion to giving the neglected dogs and cats of Aruba a second chance at life. Those interested in volunteering, donating, or just cuddling some dogs, puppies, cats, and kittens can contact the Aruba Animal Shelter, or better yet, just stop in!





Opening hours: Mon – Thurs, 8 am – 12 pm;
Fri & Sat, 8 am - 3 pm
Address: Wayaca 128-B
Telephone: +297-582-1623
E-mail: animalshelterwayaca@gmail.com
Website: www.arubaanimalshelter.com
Facebook: [Aruba.Animal.Shelter](https://www.facebook.com/Aruba.Animal.Shelter)
For donation information, please email the shelter.

Sgt. Pepper's Friends

Realizing how social media could serve as an engine of change in the world of animal rescue on the island of Aruba, Instagram yoga celebrity Rachel Brathen opened an Instagram account called Sgt. Pepper's Friends, named after her own dog that had recently died. In no time at all—and with a few dedicated volunteers added into the mix—Sgt. Pepper's Friends blossomed into a proper foundation. Through the hard work of its volunteers and fosters, paired with the support of its Instagram followers (now numbering close to 100,000), Sgt. Pepper's Friends has rescued and found new homes for countless neglected dogs

and cats on the island, with most of them adopted by families in the U.S. and Canada.

Visitors to the island can volunteer as dog-walkers, providing exercise and socialization for rescued dogs. Donations and transporting pet supplies in your luggage are also important ways you can help. For more information, visit the website at www.sgtpeppersfriends.com or email at info@sgtpeppersfriends.com.

Aruba Donkey Sanctuary

Tucked away in a semi-remote cunucu area (Aruba's countryside), a sanctuary can be found. The Aruba Donkey Sanctuary is a foundation supported entirely by donations and managed through the hard work of selfless volunteers to benefit Aruba's long-standing donkey population.

The Aruban donkeys date back 500 years, when Spaniards, who used them for transportation and as beasts of burden, brought the animals here. Today, around 200 donkeys live in Aruba, with about half residing at the sanctuary. Aside from rescuing and caring for donkeys, the sanctuary is a primary vehicle for educating the public about the animals.

The sanctuary eagerly welcomes new volunteers—whether to assist with the daily chores of feeding and cleaning, act as a tour guide, or assist with general maintenance and repairs. Those wishing to spend time volunteering at the sanctuary can go to the website's volunteer page at <http://main.arubandonkey.org/portal/index.php/volunteers>, where there is additional information and a volunteer information form.

Opening hours: Every day, 9 am to 4 pm

Address: Bringamosa 2Z

Phone: +297-593-2933





Faye Ranch

Faye Ranch is the island's first equine sanctuary for retired, abused, or injured horses that can no longer carry riders on tours. No more saddles, no more bits in their mouths, no more metal shoes pounded into their hoofs—just quality, healthy food, room to roam, medical care, therapeutic massages, and most important, lots of love. The muscle behind Equine Sanctuary Aruba (ESA) is founder Frederique Drost, who has opened up her home—literally—to these beautiful beasts.



ESA is a foundation in its infancy, following corporate governance standards with a knowledgeable board to oversee the foundation, an established daily protocol for management and volunteers, and financial and governance ethics reviewed by a certified accountant, with financial statements to be published yearly on the ranch's website. For now, the ranch runs with the help of volunteers and donations, with Frederique devoting her home and time 24/7 to her equine residents, along with four adopted cunucu dogs, and a flock of chubby domesticated chickens that curiously love to be held and cuddled.



How can you help? Volunteers help around the ranch with daily chores like feeding and cleaning, as well as leading the horses on therapeutic walks in the countryside of Arikok National Park. Donations are always welcome, as caring for horses is expensive. Visitors are always welcome to stop

by with a bag or two of apples and carrots as well! Please contact the ranch at equinesanctuary@yahoo.com ahead of time to schedule a visit or inquire about volunteering. Visit the website at equinesanctuary.weebly.com for more information.

Help Them Fly Home!

Several other island rescue groups specialize in sending dogs and cats to the States or elsewhere for adoption. These groups are always looking for flight volunteers to help transport these fur babies to their new home. Reach out to any of the following organizations to find out more about transporting: Animal Relief Foundation (info@ARF-aruba.com), Sgt. Pepper's Friends (info@sgtpeppersfriends.com), New Life for Paws (newlifeforpawsfoundation@gmail.com), or Aruba Flight Volunteers (info@cunucudogrescue.org).

Make a donation to support the island's youth:

Happy Community Initiative

Organized by the Aruba Timeshare Association, this initiative builds a bridge between the social sector and tourism to promote social and sustainable development on Aruba. Millions of people around the world love Aruba—their home away from home! The Happy Community Initiative is an innovative platform that allows timeshare owners, visitors, and friends of Aruba around the world to contribute to charities on the island. Timeshare owners and visitors can donate online, in hotels, and in restaurants. For more information, visit www.happycommunityaruba.org. Platforms already benefiting from donations include after-school programs for teens, youth mentorship activities, and resources for at-risk youth on the island.





If you want to see some of the countryside and other parts of the island:

Aruba Doet

Aruba Doet is the largest volunteer event on the island of Aruba. A variety of community and social projects are evaluated by a committee, which then secures materials and volunteers and generally prepares for the big, action-packed weekend in an effort to increase community involvement, focusing on quality sustainable projects. Projects include anything from painting buildings, repairing playgrounds, or building bus stop shelters to lending a hand at an animal shelter or spoiling a group of elderly folks.

Volunteers often sign up to help social organizations or promote a good cause together with friends, classmates, or colleagues. Visitors that are on the island during the 2020 Aruba Doet weekend, March 13 and 14, can also participate by visiting the website (www.arubadoet.com) and registering. Last year, more than 3,750 volunteers worked hard to carry out 187 projects, in collaboration with 167 social organizations.



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